

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as shown in the following Listing of Claims.

1. **(currently amended)** A portable defibrillator comprising a housing containing defibrillator circuitry and a disposable electrode assembly external to said housing, the electrode assembly comprising ~~at least one~~ a pair of defibrillator ~~electrode electrodes~~, at least one battery for powering the defibrillator circuitry, and a connector for connecting the electrode and battery to the defibrillator housing, wherein the connector has power output terminals for connecting the at least one battery to the defibrillator circuitry and at least one high voltage input terminal for receiving a defibrillation voltage to be applied to the ~~electrode electrodes~~, ~~and wherein the electrode has~~ electrodes have a stowage location on the defibrillator housing and ~~the defibrillator has means operative when the connector is electrically connected to the defibrillator housing and the electrode is stowed at the stowage location to prevent the application of battery power to the defibrillator circuitry, the defibrillator further having means for automatically connecting battery power to the defibrillator circuitry upon removal and deployment of the electrode from the stowage location~~ are electrically connected by a frangible connection which is broken when the electrodes are removed from the stowage location and separated for use, and wherein the defibrillator circuitry determines when the frangible connection is broken to complete a power circuit in the defibrillator housing for energizing the electrodes.

2. **(cancelled)**

3. **(cancelled)**

4. **(currently amended)** A defibrillator as claimed in claim 1, wherein the electrode assembly comprises ~~two defibrillation electrodes and~~ a common housing for the defibrillation electrodes and the at least one battery, the common electrode/battery housing being removably fitted to the defibrillator housing and having power output and high voltage input terminals for connection to corresponding terminals on the defibrillator housing.

5. **(original)** A defibrillator as claimed in claim 4, wherein the common housing is slidable into a complementary recess in the defibrillator housing, the sliding movement bringing the terminals on the two housings into engagement.

6. **(previously presented)** A defibrillator claimed in claim 5, wherein the common housing comprises a shallow upper tray-like recess for accommodating the defibrillator electrodes and a deeper battery-containing recess occupying part of the area of the tray-like recess, wherein the defibrillator housing has a stepped recess complementary to that of the lower surface of the common housing, wherein the common housing is slid into the recess in the defibrillator housing from an edge thereof in a direction substantially parallel to the plane of the tray-like recess, and wherein the engaging terminals are located on riser portions of the lower surface of the common housing and the complementary recess in the defibrillator housing.

7. **(cancelled)**

8. **(cancelled)**

9. **(cancelled)**